

Bluefield Daily Leader.

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Prof. Lyon William Phelps of Yale, in a recent lecture in Connecticut, declares that "Mark Twain is easily the greatest American novelist in the history of the country's literature."

Owing to a lockout and strike, no newspapers are being printed at Butte, Montana, just now. The poor people out there are left to guess as best they can how Mrs. Thaw looks this morning.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Big chief Pleasant Porter, ruler of 10,000 Creek Indians, may be one of the Democratic candidates for the United States senate from the new state of Oklahoma. Like Senator Curtis of Kansas, Porter's father was a white man and his mother a squaw.

It is said that powerful mediators have smoothed over the difficulty between President Roosevelt and Bellamy Storer because of the latter's recall and that in the future the incident will be regarded by all parties interested as having arisen from a misunderstanding.

Dr. Thomas L. Shearer one of the most prominent physicians in Baltimore, has decided to go hatless for the rest of his life and will try to induce others to follow his example. Dr. Shearer holds that if men would only go bareheaded a generation or two the bald headed man would become a thing of the past.

The road will be left by the legislature just as they are. Schools will have the skimp along with reduced appropriations. But Elkins was elected anyway and somehow, somewhere, some place. We are supposed to have derived great and lasting good from the present session of the legislature.—Charleston Gazette.

Sarah Bernhart has been appointed to the professorship of declamation at the Paris Conservatory of Music and Declamation. The appointment was made in order to remove the objection of the chancellor of the Legion of Honor which declined to confirm Mme. Bernhart's nomination for the cross of the Legion of Honor on the ground that actors could only be decorated in the quality of professors.

THE JAPANESE SETTLEMENT.

Only time can settle any differences of opinion as to the effect on the country, or even on any section of the country, from the new legislation. Its wisdom or unwisdom did not enter into the consideration. Meager and isolated interests, which it is absurd to call national in scope, were alone regarded. If the president has brought Congress to terms, he himself was first brought to terms and very exasperating terms at that. The inside history of the negotiations leading up to the framing of this curious legislation will hardly be likely to discredit the information that is already open to the public. It appears from this information that the president originally won the California congressional delegation to his point of view respecting "international morality"; that the Legislature of the state was induced to refrain from passing a violent resolution directed at the "interference" of the United States in local affairs; that the officials of the city of San Francisco came to Washington prepared to meet the president on his chosen ground; and that then

BIG BATTLESHIPS FOR U. S. NAVY.

DREADNAUGHT WILL LOOK SMALL.

THAT'S WHAT BOAT OF ENGLISH NAVY WILL APPEAR BESIDE U. S. SHIPS.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The United States will have the two largest battleships known to naval architecture. This fact was determined to-day when the senate committee on naval affairs approved the construction of the house in providing for the construction of these vessels. The bill so far in the house bill so far in the building of the two battleships that will make the British Dreadnaught seem like a toy boat. The sum of \$3,000,000 was added for the armament of other vessels under construction. It is believed that the acceptance by the senate committee of the house provision for two battleships of the largest type known was chiefly influenced by the recently developed apprehension that war between the United States and Japan must come at some future time.

AN OUTSIDE LOOK AT US.

THE ENGLISH AND MEXICAN VIEW OF OUR BUSINESS PROSPECTS.

Many opinions have been given of late as to the probable duration of the present period of prosperity in the United States. Over in London Sir Felix Schuster holds that the period of great financial and industrial activity in the United States is nearing its end, and must be replaced by liquidation. Similar views have been printed coming from American business men, but the great majority think, apparently, that the "turn of the tide" will not arrive till after the present year. Bouncer crops the coming autumn would aid in maintaining prosperity, though fear is expressed of the rockiness of the great Wall-street speculators.

It is argued that the very real prosperity which has continued so long must have resulted in large savings, which will powerfully aid in keeping things going, especially if the great bankers and men of influence and capital adopt a more cautious policy, coupled with retrenchment and the curbing of waste and extravagance.

Some of the London financial writers are cautioning investors against "plunging" in American securities, and one London critic of New York financiers is that they have been "attempting an impossibility in running two things at the same time—namely, a commercial and a speculative boom." British experience is that great stock exchange activity does not coincide with similar conditions in the leading industries. British critics point to labor troubles as sure to arise in the United States on account of the higher cost of living, and they call attention to the prospect of heavy additions to the capitalization of leading American railways.

The London attitude toward American investments is not wholly a distrustful one, but it is marked by caution. American prosperity is thought to be too great to last much longer.

Meantime the leading American business men are going forward confidently enough, and plans are being made for a great addition to the existing railway system, so much needed to keep freights moving. Hopefulness is the dominant sentiment in the United States, and yet 1908, with its disturbing presidential campaign, is approaching. If the election turns on socialistic issues there will be no little nervousness experienced till it is over. Big crops and a conservative triumph at the polls would combine to give the United States a new lease of good times.

The woman who wants to wear a three-story hat in the winter wants to go bareheaded in a snowstorm.

THE ROOSEVELT IS BADLY DAMAGED.

MASTER OF THE BARGE WANTS \$3,500 FROM TUG AND SCHOONER.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 21.—Jesse R. Hunter master of the barge Theodore Roosevelt, has libeled in the United States District Court the tug Mary Lee and the three-masted schooner J. S. Lamprey for \$3,500 damages.

The tug was towing the barge down the James river from Richmond, when it is claimed by Captain Hunter, the tug stopped, allowing the schooner to foul the barge. The barge, which was loaded with cross-ties, went down in 15 feet of water.

HOPEFUL VIEW OF THE NEGRO

We are not afraid of the good negro, no matter how well educated, how rich and prosperous he may be. We insist that the good negroes do not make a race problem; we feel sure that they never will.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

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CONDENSED STATEMENT SHOWING CONDITION OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK, BLUEFIELD, W. VA., FEB. 2d, 1907.

RESOURCES.		LIABILITIES.	
Bills Receivable,	\$229,415.37	Capital stock,	\$100,000.00
U. S. Bonds & Premiums,	46,890.03	Undivided Profits,	4,000.49
Bonds, Securities, Etc.,	14,003.12	Circulation,	45,000.00
Due From Banks,	65,998.15	Bills Payable & Redisct'd,	32,500.00
Cash and Due From U. S.,	25,456.73	Deposits,	222,154.51
	\$403,663.40		\$403,663.40

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